

Making Cogeneration Pencil Out: Anaerobic Co-Digestion of Grease Trap Waste

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Engineers & Scientists

Presentation Snapshot

- Project Background
- Data from first 12 months of operation
 - Reduced solids production
 - ~30% weight reduction
 - Improved solids dewaterability
 - Increase cake density, reduced polymer usage
 - Electricity production
 - Digester stability

Project Background & Update

- 2004 project planning started
- January 2007 Grease receiving started
- September 2008 nearing 1 million gallons received

How much did it cost?

- Total project cost ~\$5.5 M
 - Base cogen facility ~\$1.9 M
 - Switchgear upgrade ~\$0.7 M
 - Grease receiving station ~\$0.7 M
 - CNG storage facility ~\$0.7 M
 - Digester mixing ~\$1.5 M

Why Consider Grease Receiving?

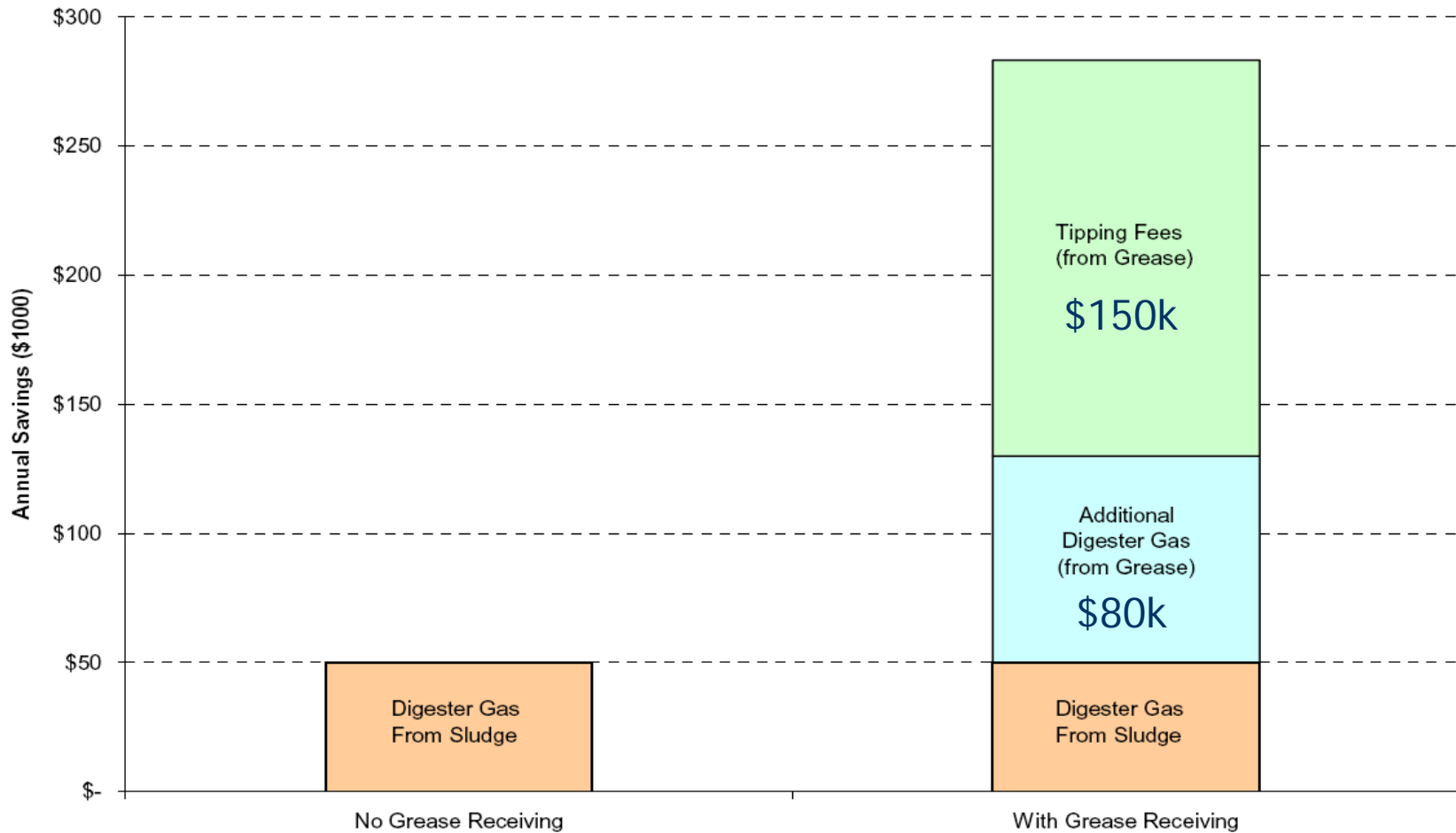
- Economics
 - Additional digester gas produced
 - Additional revenue from tipping fees
 - Between \$0.10 to \$0.18 per gallon
- Provide Environmentally Sound Disposal Option for Haulers

Anticipated Power Production

- 60 kW from sludge
- 100 kW from grease trap waste
- (-) 25 kW for gas treatment and comp.
- 135 kW net production
 - ~\$120,000/year in energy savings

Economic Benefits

Figure 1: Annual Savings



Environmental Benefits

- Reduced carbon footprint
 - US Average - 1.55 lbs of CO₂ per KWh¹
- Opportunity for Waste Diversion
 - Food processing waste
 - Food scrap waste

¹ http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=energy_awareness.bus_energy_use#conversions

Millbrae WPCP



Project Assumptions

- Will receive ~3000 gallons per day
- Grease content = ~18%
- Volatile solids destruction = 65%
- Gas production = 15 CF/lb VS destroyed
- Methane Content = 60%
- Cost of electricity = \$0.138/kWh
- Tipping Fees:
 - \$0.14 per gallon
 - \$25 dump fee

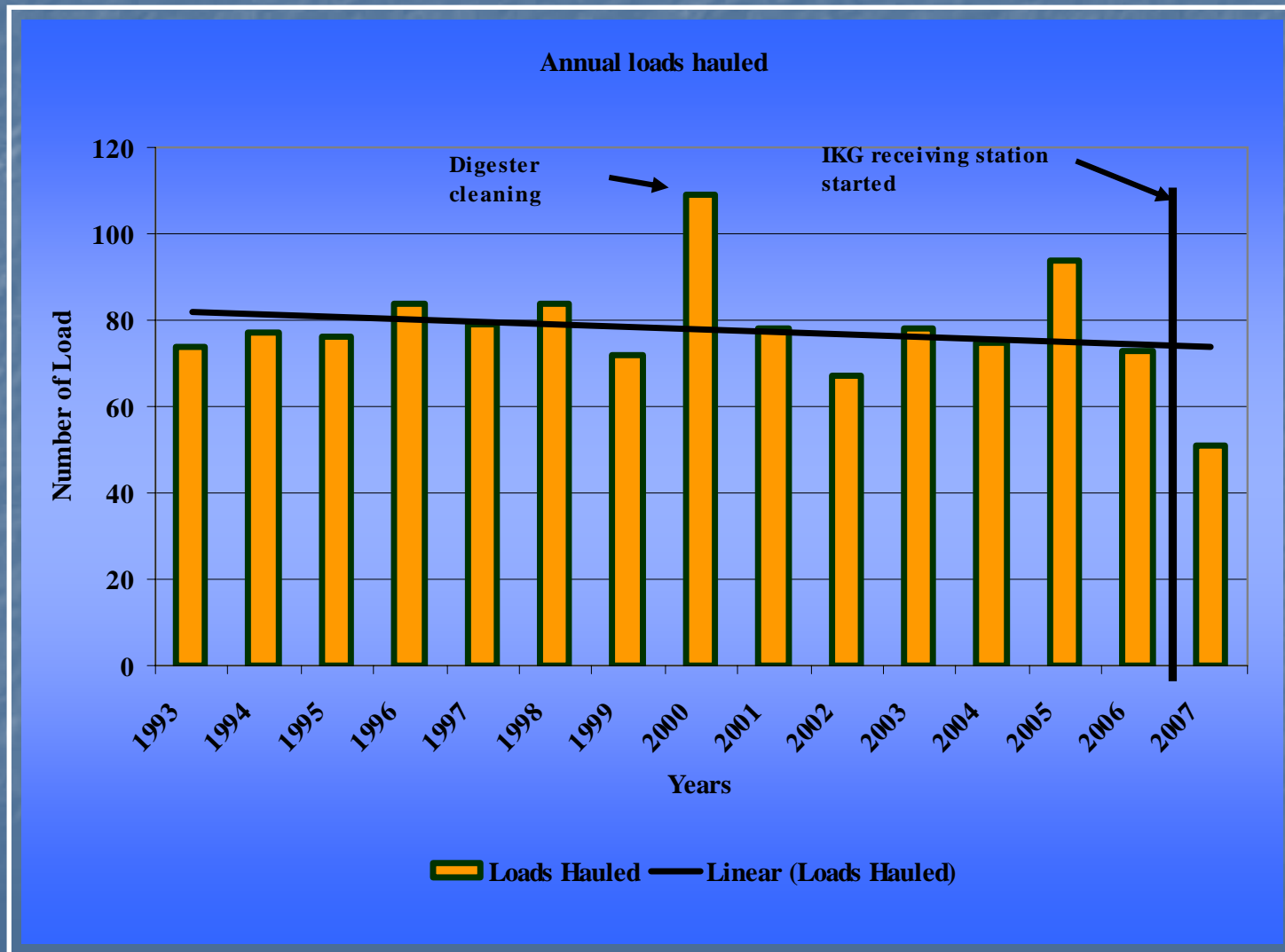
Project Facts

- Gas Quality
 - H₂S level < 1 ppm
 - Siloxane level < 70 ppb
- Digester Capacity = ~1 MG
- Existing loading 2800 lbs VSS/day
 - 0.022 lbs VSS/cu. ft digester volume

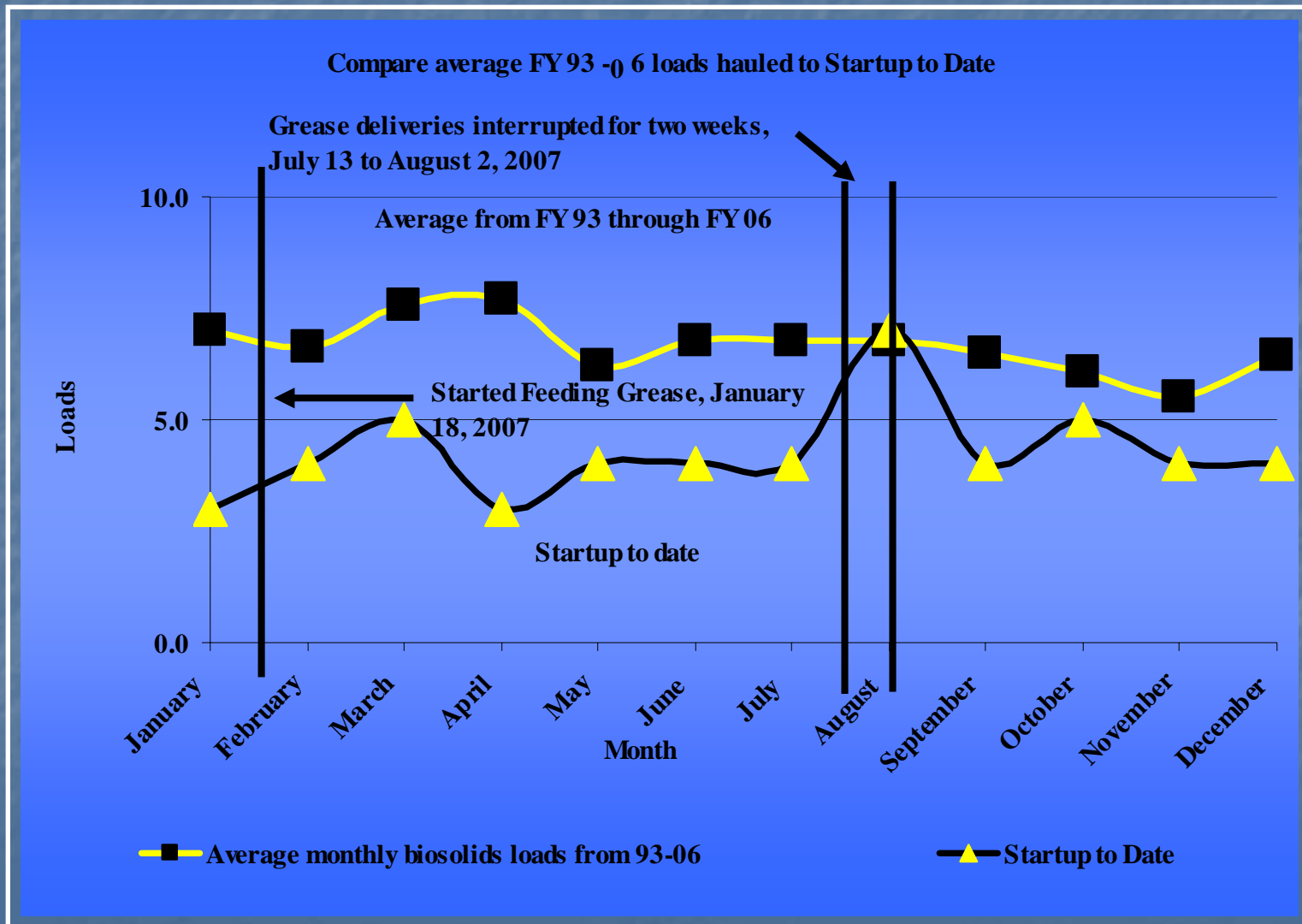
Anticipated VS Load

- VS from sludge = 2800 lbs/day
- VS from grease trap waste = 4500 lbs/day
- Digester loading = 0.057 lbs VS/cu. ft./day
- Other Digester Loadings
 - Textbook = 0.10 – 0.30 lbs/cu. ft./day (pump mixed)
 - SBSA = 0.10 - 0.13 lbs/cu. ft./day (pump mixed)
 - North San Mateo = 0.15 lbs/cu. ft./day (pump mixed)
 - San Leandro WPCP = 0.18 lbs/cu. ft./day (pump mixed)

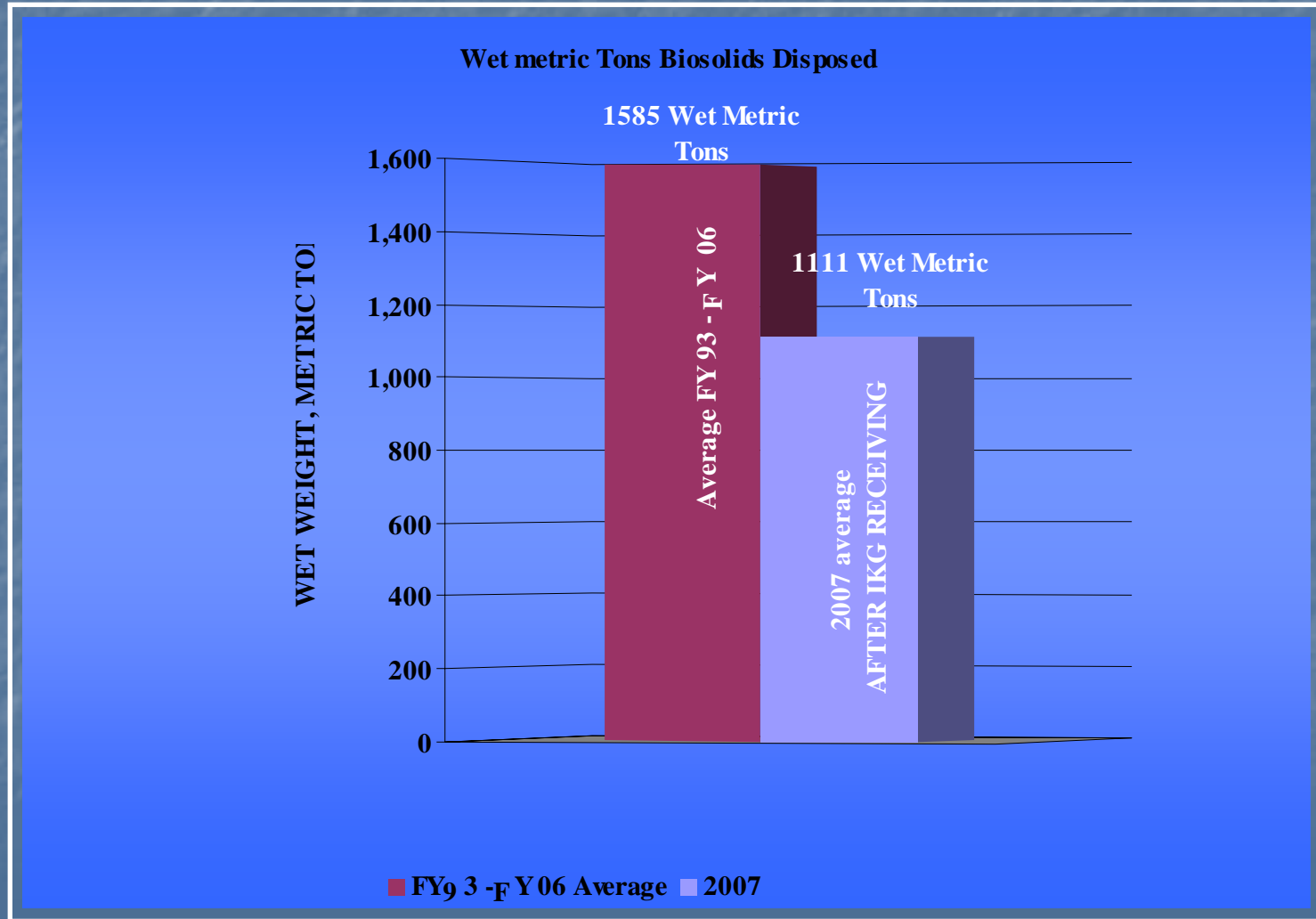
Reduced Solids Production



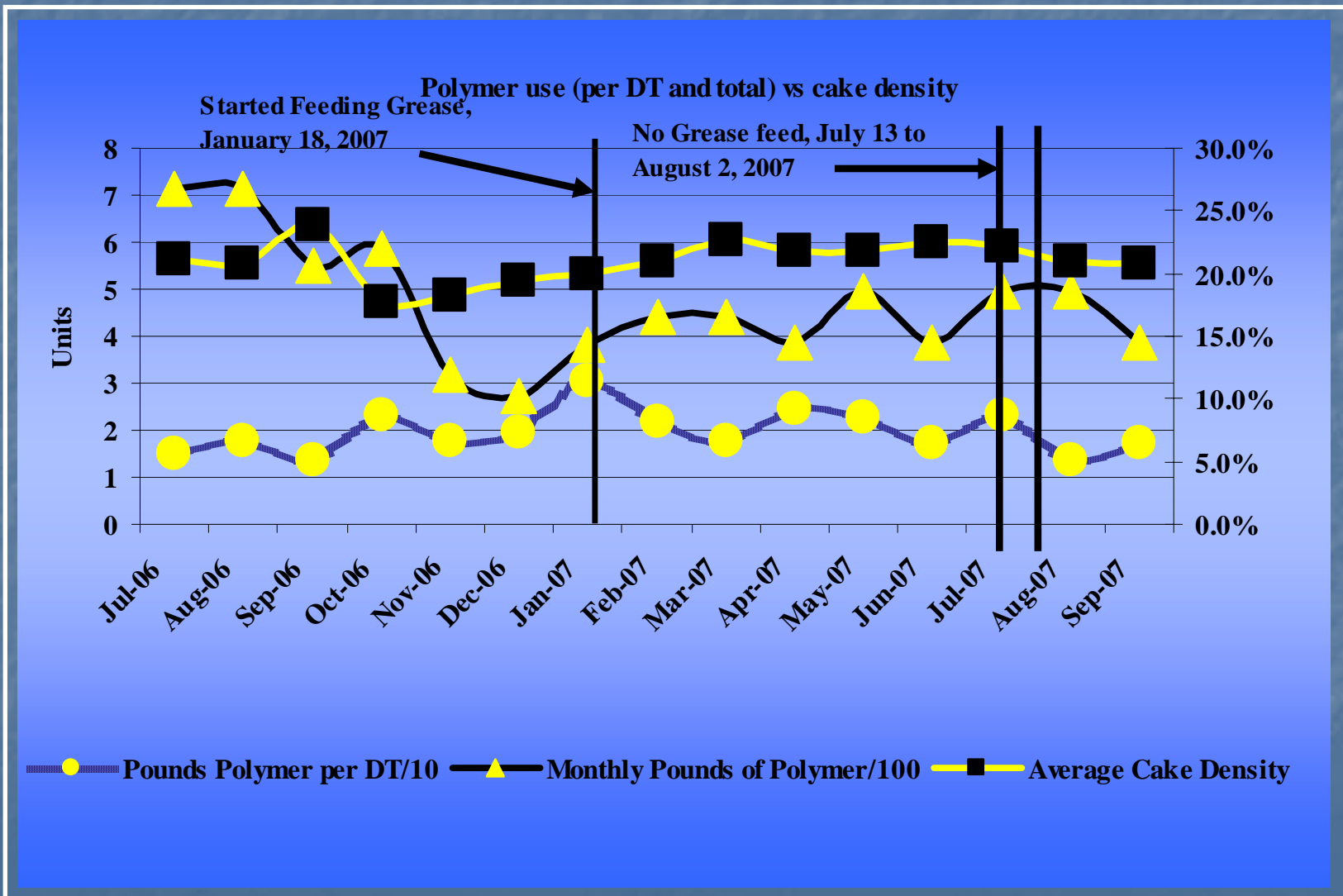
Reduced Solids Production



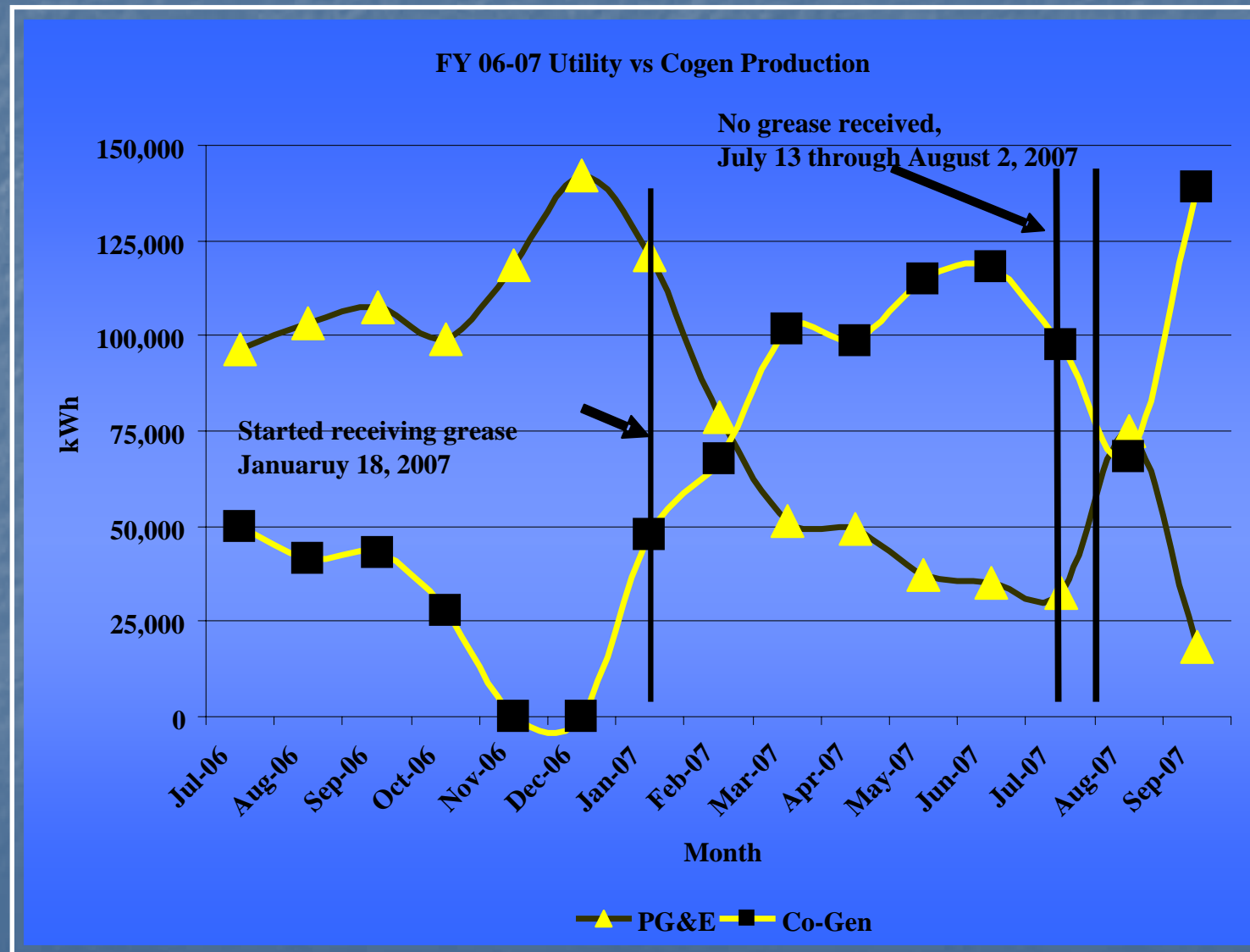
Reduced Solids Production



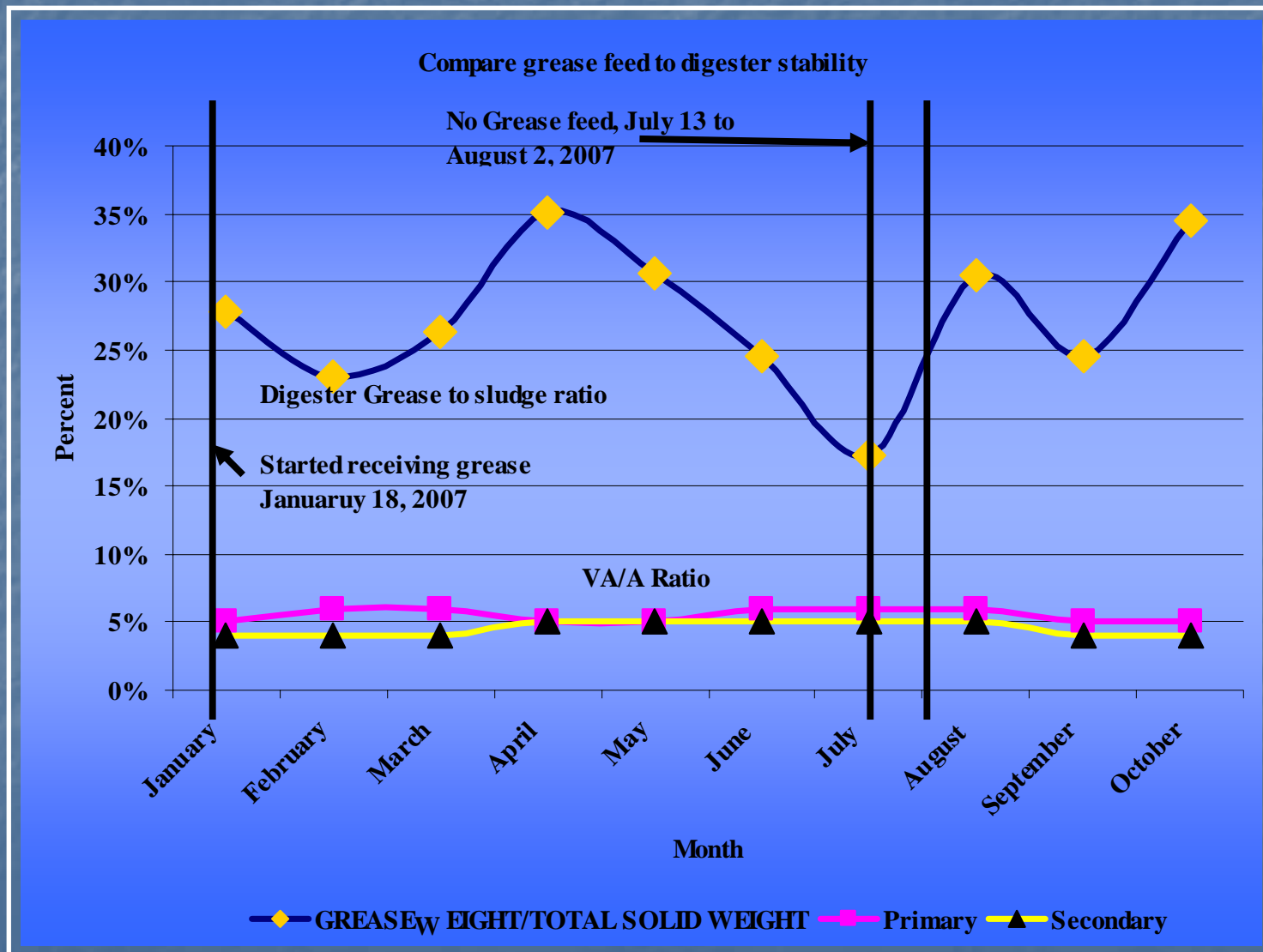
Improved Dewaterability

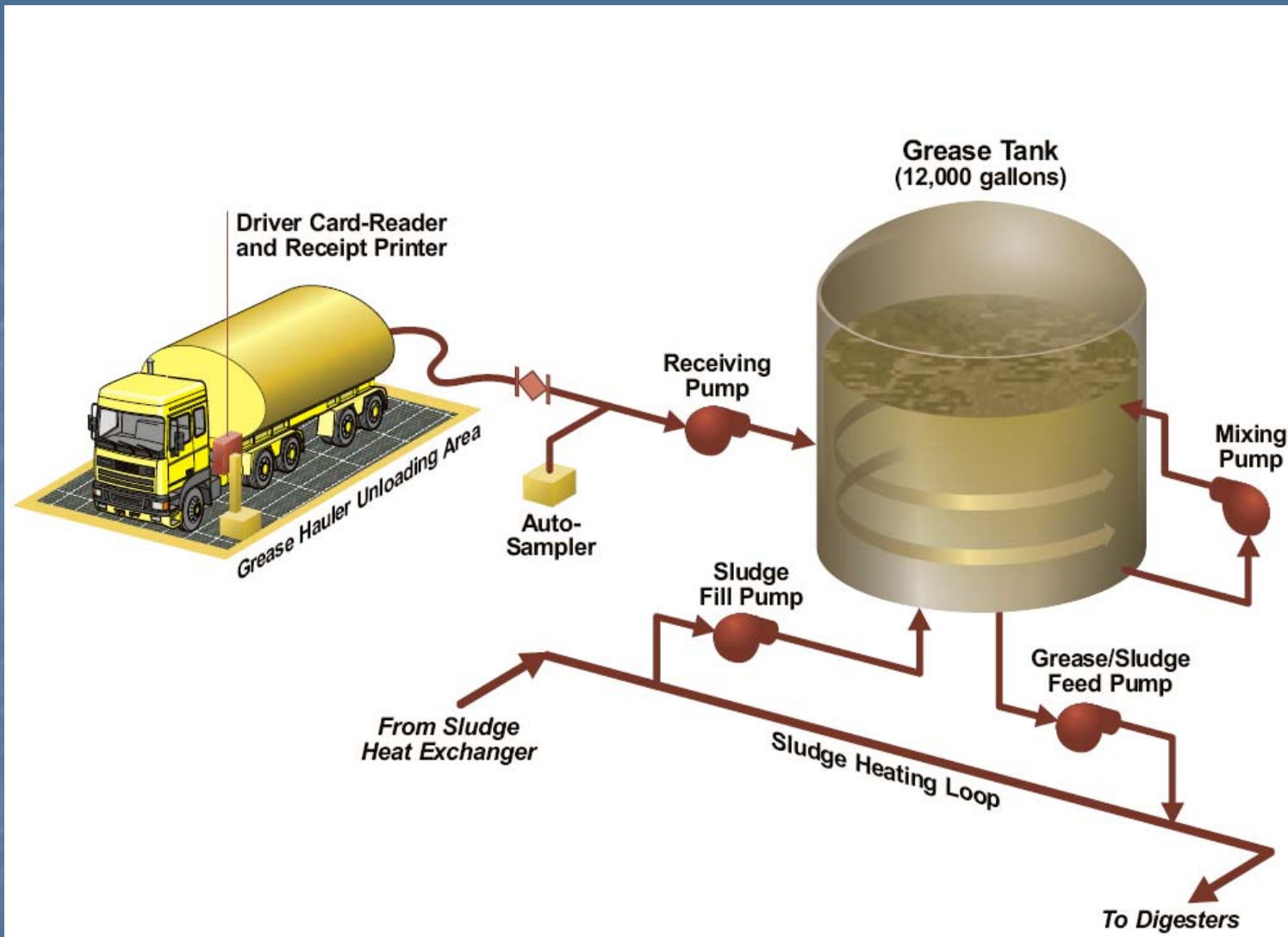


Power Production



Digester Stability











Thank You

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